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- 1 1. (currently amended) Processing apparatus adapted to implement an artificial intelligence application, which application requires use of training sets having positive and negative examples, the apparatus comprising:
 - 4 • at least one memory adapted to store data and/or instructions;
 - 5 • at least one processor adapted to execute ~~the following~~ operations, using the at least one memory, the operations comprising:
 - 7 • recognizing and maintaining a set of positive examples for training; and
 - 8 • upon completion of recognition of the set of positive examples, selecting a set of negative examples for training responsive to the set of positive examples.
- 2 2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the set of negative examples has a same number of members as the set of positive examples.
- 3 3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the artificial intelligence application is a content recommender.
- 4 4. (original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the content is television shows.
- 1 5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein
 - 2 • the positive and negative examples are describable in accordance with at least one feature, the feature having a plurality of possible values within a feature space;

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- 4 • the set of positive examples includes at least one subset, each subset including a respective
5 plurality of members sharing a same respective value of a given feature in the feature space,
6 the given feature being one that has been determined in advance to be a dominant feature in
7 the feature space; and
- 8 • the set of negative examples includes at least one respective subset corresponding to the at
9 least one subset of the set of positive examples, the members of each respective subset of
10 negative examples being selected to share the same respective value of the given feature with
11 the members of the subset of the set of positive examples that corresponds with the
12 respective subset of negative examples.

1 6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the set of negative examples includes at least
2 one respective second subset of negative examples, the members of the respective second
3 subset of negative examples being selected to have a value of the given feature that lies
4 within a predetermined range of the same value, but excluding the same respective value.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein no negative example appears twice in the set of
negative examples.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the given feature is time of day.

1 9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the operations include
2 • training the artificial intelligence application responsive to the positive and negative

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3 examples; and

- 4 • executing the artificial intelligence application to yield a processing result in a useful
5 application.

1 10. (currently amended) Apparatus adapted to implement an artificial intelligence application,
2 which application requires use of training sets having positive and negative examples, the
3 positive and negative examples being describable in accordance with at least one feature, the
4 feature having a plurality of possible values within a feature space, the apparatus comprising:

- 5 • at least one memory adapted to store data and/or instructions;
6 • at least one processor adapted to execute ~~the following~~ operations, using the at least one
7 memory, the operations comprising:
8 • recognizing and maintaining a set of positive examples for training, the set of positive
9 examples including at least one subset, each subset including a respective plurality of
10 members sharing a same respective value of a given feature in the feature space, the
11 given feature being one that has been determined in advance to be a dominant feature in
12 the feature space; and
13 • selecting a set of negative examples for training, the set of negative examples including at
14 least one respective subset corresponding to the at least one subset of the set of positive
15 examples, the members of each respective subset of negative examples being selected to
16 share the same respective value of the given feature with the members of the subset of the
17 set of positive examples that corresponds with the respective subset of negative
18 examples.

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11. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the artificial intelligence application is a content recommender.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the content is television shows.

1 13. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the set of negative examples includes at least
2 one respective second subset of negative examples, the members of the respective second
3 subset of negative examples being selected to have a value of the given feature that lies
4 within a predetermined range of the same respective value, but excluding the same respective
5 value.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein no negative example appears twice in the set of negative examples.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the given feature is time of day.

1 16. (currently amended) Apparatus adapted to implement an artificial intelligence application,
2 which application requires use of training sets having positive and negative examples, the
3 positive and negative examples being describable in accordance with at least one feature, the
4 feature having a plurality of possible values within a feature space, the apparatus comprising:
5 • at least one memory adapted to store data and/or instructions;
6 • at least one processor adapted to execute ~~the following~~ operations, using the at least one

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7 memory, the operations comprising:

- 8 • recognizing and maintaining a set of positive examples for training, the set of positive
9 examples including at least one subset, each subset including a plurality of members
10 sharing a same respective value of a given feature in the feature space, the given feature
11 being one that has been determined in advance to be a dominant feature in the feature
12 space; and
- 13 • selecting a set of negative examples for training, the set of negative examples includes at
14 least one respective subset of negative examples, the members of the respective subset of
15 negative examples being selected to have a value of the given feature that lies within a
16 predetermined range of the same respective value, but not including the same respective
17 value.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the artificial intelligence application is a content recommender.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the content is television shows.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein no negative example appears twice in the set of negative examples.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the given feature is time of day.